

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DLOS-04 INT-05 EB-07 CG-00

DOT-00 SAL-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 IO-11 OMB-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /093 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA /FA B.S.HALLMAN:EEB

APPROVED BY OES/OFA /FA KCLARKE-BOURNE

ARA/LA/EP-MR. CLARKE

----- 062712

R 051551Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:EFIS, PFOR, EC

SUBJECT:CLOSURE OF TUNA SEASON

REF: QUITO 2358

1. CLOSURE OF OPEN SEASON FOR FISHING IN REGULATORY AREA OF INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC), WHICH INCLUDES ECUADORIAN-CLAIMED WATERS, IS DETERMINED BY IATTC SCIENTIFIC STAFF. DECISION AS TO WHEN SEASON SHOULD CLOSE IS MADE ESSENTIALLY BY DR. JAMES JOSEPH, DIRECTOR OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE IATTC. ONCE COMMISSION DETERMINES CLOSURE DATE, BASED ON TOTAL CATCHES SINCE JANUARY 1 AND ON ANTICIPATED CATCHES DURING CLOSED SEASON UNDER SPECIAL PROVISIONS, THIS INFORMATION IS TRANSMITTED TO MEMBER GOVERNMENTS, EACH OF WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE BY ITS FLAG VESSELS. US DOES THIS BY COMPLICATED MEANS OF INSPECTIONS, VESSEL REPORTING, AND HIGH FREQUENCY DIRECTION

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FINDING SYSTEM.

2. 1976 OPEN SEASON FOR YELLOWFIN TUNA WAS CLOSED MARCH 27. HOWEVER, UNDER TERMS OF ANNUAL COMMISSION RESOLUTION VESSELS WHICH ARE IN PORT AT CLOSURE AND LEAVE WITHIN 30 DAYS ARE PERMITTED A "LAST FREE TRIP" FOR YELLOWFIN IN

REGULATORY AREA. THUS A VESSEL CAN STILL LEGALLY FISH FOR YELLOWFIN CLOSE TO SHORE UNTIL IT HAS FILLED ITS CARRYING CAPACITY WITH TUNA. THE LAST TRIP IS USUALLY COMPLETED BY MOST VESSELS SOMETIME IN JUNE. ALSO, YELLOWFIN TUNA IS ONLY SPECIES UNDER REGULATION BY IATTC. THUS VESSELS ARE FREE TO FISH FOR OTHER TUNA SPECIES AT ANY TIME DURING YEAR. THIS INCLUDES SKIPJACK TUNA, WHICH IS OFTEN

FOUND IN GREAT ABUNDANCE OFF ECUADOR, PARTICULARLY DURING WINTER MONTHS.

3. DEPTS VIEW IS THAT, UNFORTUNATELY, RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IATTC SEASON AND POSSIBLE SEIZURES BY GOE IS AT BEST VERY TENUOUS. WE CANNOT BE SURE WE HAVE AVOIDED SEIZURES FOR 1976 UNTIL YEAR HAS ENDED. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISHING RIGHTS, TERRITORIAL WATERS, POLICIES, FISHING GROUNDS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE081325  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EEB  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LOSURE OF TUNA SEASON  
**TAGS:** EFIS, PFOR, EC, IATTC  
**To:** QUITO  
**Type:** TE  
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